



Minutes/June 11, 2018

The Board of Trustees of School District Five of Lexington and Richland Counties met at The Center for Advanced Technical Studies with the following members present:

Mr. Robert Gantt, Chairman
Mr. Larry Haltiwanger, Vice Chairman
Mrs. Ellen Baumgardner, Secretary
Mr. Michael Cates
Mrs. Jan Hammond
Ms. Beth Hutchison
Mr. Ed White
Dr. Stephen Hefner, District Superintendent
Dr. Christina Melton, District Superintendent-Elect

The following staff were in attendance:

Ms. Katrina Goggins, Director, Office of Communications
Dr. Michael Harris, Chief Student Services Officer
Dr. Allison Jacques, Chief Human Resources Officer
Mr. Len Richardson, Chief Finance Office

Chairman Robert Gantt gave welcoming remarks.

The Invocation was given by Jan Hammond, Board of Trustees. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Deuce Moore.

The Board conducted the School Board Spotlight.

A welcome and brief overview of The Center for Advanced Technical Studies was given by Dr. Al Gates, Director.

During the Superintendent's Report, Todd Bedenbaugh gave a presentation on the Crop Stop Initiative; Michael Guliano gave presentations on Project Search, BOOM (Building Occupational Opportunities in the Midlands) and Escolares Program: 10-Year Anniversary.

During the public participation, Kim Murphy spoke regarding financial issues.

A = Absent
AB = Abstain
N = No
X = Yes
R = Recuse

SCHOOL DISTRICT FIVE
OF
LEXINGTON AND RICHLAND COUNTIES

Meeting of June 11, 2018

		BAUMGARDNER	CATES	GANTT	HALTIWANGER	HAMMOND	HUTCHISON	WHITE
1.	M. Cates S. Baumgardner Approve the agenda	X	X	X	X	X	A	A
2.	M. Haltiwanger S. Baumgardner Enter executive session to consider the following : a) receipt of legal advice regarding borrowing capacity ; b) evaluation of Superintendent for 2017-2018 (Exhibit A) ; and c) selected employment items (Exhibit B)	X	X	X	X	X	A	A
3.	M. Baumgardner S. Cates Approve the minutes of the May 21, 2018 board meeting	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
4.	M. Cates S. Hammond Approve the selected employment items (Exhibit B)	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
5.	M. Hutchison S. Hammond Mr. Chairman, based upon your letter to Dr. Hefner of May 31, 2018, and Dr. Hefner's response to you on June 4, 2018, which each board member has a copy of, I move the Board endorse Dr. Hefner's assessment of Dr. Melton's performance as Superintendent-Elect for the period of January 1, 2018 through the present and authorize you to issue the attached Public Statement on behalf of the Board, confirming Dr. Melton's appointment as Superintendent of School District Five of Lexington and Richland Counties, effective July 1, 2018	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
6.	M. Haltiwanger S. Hutchison Mr. Chairman, after reviewing Dr. Hefner's report on the District's progress, and hearing the Board members' comments this evening regarding Dr. Hefner's performance, I move that we conclude as a Board that Dr. Hefner receive an Exceptional evaluation for the 2017-2018 school year							

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ASCHOOL DISTRICT FIVE
OF
LEXINGTON AND RICHLAND COUNTIES

Meeting of June 11, 2018

		B A U M G A R D N E R	C A T E S	G A N T T	H A L T I W A N G E R	H A M M O N D	H U T C H I S O N	W H I T E
M. Gantt	S. Hutchison	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Amend to include the overall evaluation is Extraordinarily Exceptional								
Vote on original motion		X	X	X	X	X	X	X
7. M. Baumgardner	S. White	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Adjourn at 8:30 p.m.								

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School District Five of Lexington & Richland Counties

Board of Trustees

PUBLIC STATEMENT – June 11, 2018

I would like to make the following statement on behalf of the Board regarding our Superintendent, Dr. Stephen Hefner. As has just been established through Board action, at our meeting this evening, the Board conducted its final evaluation of Dr. Hefner and found his overall evaluation to be extraordinarily exceptional. His evaluation speaks for itself.

Dr. Hefner's accomplishments on behalf of the District during the 2017-18 school year are reflected in his overall extraordinarily exceptional evaluation. Under Dr. Hefner's leadership, the District has continued to achieve excellence in student achievement; fill its teaching positions with highly qualified, properly certified teachers; strengthen its access to and utilization of technology to improve teaching and learning; ensure effective and efficient utilization of the District's fiscal and physical resources; reinforce its efforts to provide for the safety, emotional, psychological, and physical well-being of students and staff; and provide an effective communication system with employees, parents, students, and the community.

One of Dr. Hefner's many strengths is his ability to recognize and support outstanding leaders. This is evidenced by the fact that during his time as Superintendent, numerous District administrators received state and national awards for their leadership. Most recently, Dr. Akil Ross, principal of Chapin High School, was named the 2018 NASSP National Principal of the Year. Kelly Reese, assistant principal at Lake Murray Elementary School, was named SCASA's 2018 Elementary Assistant Principal of the Year. Mr. Reggie Kennedy, Irmo High School athletic director, was named SCAAA Regional Athletic Director of the Year. Todd Bedenbaugh, director of student nutrition, was named School Nutrition Association's Director of the Year for

South Carolina and the Southeast Regional Director of the Year. Dr. Michael Lofton, principal at Spring Hill High School, was named 2018 Magnet Schools of America National Principal of the Year. Additionally, Dr. Hefner was named 2018 Magnet Schools of America national Superintendent of the Year. Dr. Hefner was also given the Lifetime Achievement award by the Irmo Chamber.

We are grateful for all that Dr. Hefner has done during his eight school years of leading School District Five to build a strong foundation for the future of our District. We further appreciate Dr. Hefner's efforts to provide the Board and District with a smooth transition to the leadership of our next Superintendent, Dr. Christina Melton.

On behalf of the School District Five Board of Trustees and the entire District Five community, we simply say "thank you" for a job that is clearly your passion and extremely, extraordinarily well done. Thank you for your clear vision and laser focus leading School District of Lexington & Richland Counties to new heights. Thank you, Dr. Hefner.

Chairman Robert Gantt for the Board

June 11, 2018

School District Five of Lexington & Richland Counties

Board of Trustees

PUBLIC STATEMENT – June 11, 2018

The Lexington-Richland Five community is well aware that in December 2017, the Board of Trustees of our District named Dr. Christina Melton as the District's next Superintendent effective July 1, 2018, following Dr. Hefner's retirement June 30.

As is customary with South Carolina School superintendents, in December the District executed a three-year contract with Dr. Melton to begin July 1, 2018, assuming she met performance expectations as "Superintendent Elect."

Dr. Melton was an administrative employee of the District at the time of her appointment as Superintendent. Thus, she was given the title "Superintendent Elect," effective January 1, 2018. Specifically, Dr. Melton's contract provided as follows:

"Effective January 1, 2018, Dr. Christina Melton shall be designated Superintendent Elect by the Board and shall perform any such duties in her capacity requested by the Superintendent; In all other respects, Dr. Melton's current Employment Agreement shall be in force until July 1, 2018, at which time the terms and conditions of this Agreement shall become effective conditioned upon satisfactory performance by Dr. Christina Melton while Superintendent Elect, as determined in good faith by the Board, on or before June 22, 2018."

Accordingly, the Board asked Dr. Hefner, Dr. Melton's immediate Supervisor, to formally advise the Board of his assessment of Dr. Melton's performance as Superintendent Elect.

Tonight, we are pleased to share Dr. Hefner's review of Dr. Melton's work during the past six months as Superintendent Elect, as set forth in his letter to me dated June 4, 2018. Dr. Hefner's letter reads as follows:

"Per the Board's request, I am submitting herewith my assessment of Dr. Christina Melton's performance as Superintendent-Elect from January 1, 2018 to the present.

In a word, Dr. Melton's performance has been 'Outstanding.' She has met or exceeded every expectation. Just has been the case during the eight school years I have supervised her, Dr. Melton -- no matter what task is assigned to her -- always rises to the top. She was an outstanding principal, an outstanding Director of Elementary Education, and an outstanding Chief Instructional Officer. Thus, it is no surprise that she has been an outstanding Superintendent Elect.

Dr. Melton is a person of great vision, a very gifted leader, an excellent manager, and an individual who establishes and sustains an organizational culture that is focused on ensuring that students and teachers can do their best work. She already has earned the esteem of our fellow superintendents here in the Midlands and around the state. And, as I have seen her interact with our 11 different superintendent's advisory groups here in the District, I have been impressed with her ability to establish rapport and to garner respect.

I am confident the District will continue to move forward positively and reach heights of success greater than ever before under Dr. Melton's leadership as Superintendent.”

Tonight, I am pleased to announce the Board unanimously concurs with Dr. Hefner's assessment, and pursuant to her contract executed in December, Dr. Melton will become District Superintendent effective July 1, 2018.

Chairman Robert Gantt for the Board

June 11, 2018